

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for the production of elongated elements ~~(1; 9; 13; 15)~~ for making jewels, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) providing a longitudinally hollow covering ~~(2; 10)~~ of the elongated element;
  - (b) providing an inner core ~~(3; 7; 111, 112)~~ of the elongated element, placed inside said covering ~~(2; 10)~~ and extending at least in correspondence of transversally-opposite longitudinal edges ~~(23,24)~~ of the covering itself ~~(2; 10)~~; and
  - (c) subjecting the structure formed by said covering ~~(2; 10)~~ and by said core ~~(3; 7; 111, 112)~~ to a pressing carried out at said longitudinal edges ~~(23,24)~~ of said covering ~~(2; 10)~~,

~~characterized in that wherein~~ said pressing step is carried out only at said longitudinal edges ~~(23,24)~~ and is such as to make said inner core ~~(3; 7; 111, 112)~~ fixed with said covering ~~(2; 10)~~ at said longitudinal edges ~~(23,24)~~, and  
~~and in that wherein~~ the relative dimensions of said core ~~(3; 7; 111, 112)~~ and of said covering ~~(2; 10)~~ are such that a lightening compartment ~~(100; 900; 130)~~ remains defined therebetween after said pressing step.

2-40 (canceled)

41. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said compartment is apt to allow setting a stone through said covering.
42. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said core extends crosswise between said opposed longitudinal edges of said covering and wherein from each part of said core a lightening compartment remains defined after said pressing step.

43. (new) The method according to claim 42, wherein each of said compartments is apt to allow setting a stone.
44. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering comprises an elongated body substantially helically wound about said core.
45. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering comprises a plurality of adjacent rings inserted on said core.
46. (new) The method according to claim 45, comprising, after said pressing step, a step of replacing at least one of said rings with an ornamental member.
47. (new) The method according to claim 46, wherein said ornamental member carries a set stone.
48. (new) The method according to claim 46, wherein said ornamental member consists in a shaped stone.
49. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering, before said pressing step, has a substantially elliptical cross section.
50. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering, before said pressing step, has a substantially rectangular-shaped cross section with rounded angles.

51. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering has a substantially convex cross section.
52. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering has two opposite faces and said method comprises a step wherein said faces are machined differently one with respect to the other.
53. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said covering has two opposite faces and said method comprises a step wherein said faces are made of and/or coated with precious metals of different kinds.
54. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said core has a cross dimension substantially equal or comparable to the inner cross dimension of said hollow covering corresponding to the distance between said crosswise-opposed longitudinal edges.
55. (new) The method according to claim 54, wherein said core is substantially flat.
56. (new) The method according to claim 55, wherein said core comprises a foil.
57. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said core comprises a perforated element.
58. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said core comprises at least a mesh structure with interlaced wires.

59. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said core is made of two parts each arranged at one of said longitudinal edges of said covering.
60. (new) The method according to claim 59, wherein each of said parts is a filiform element.
61. (new) The method according to claim 59, wherein each of said parts is under the form of strip.
62. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said core comprises a first portion soluble in a respective solvent and a second portion insoluble in said solvent, which second portion is made fixed to said covering in said pressing step and wherein the method provides a step of eliminating said first soluble portion subsequently to said pressing step.
63. (new) The method according to claim 62, wherein said first soluble portion is made of two parts.
64. (new) The method according to claim 63, wherein said two parts of said first soluble portion are placed on opposite sides of said second portion according to a substantially sandwich-like configuration.
65. (new) The method according to claim 62, wherein said second portion of said core is made of two parts.

66. (new) The method according to claim 65, wherein said two parts of said second portion are placed each at one of said opposite longitudinal edges of said covering and wherein said first soluble portion is placed between said two parts of said second portion.
67. (new) The method according to claim 66, wherein said first soluble portion of said core supports said two parts of said second portion so as to keep them adhering to said longitudinal opposed edges of said covering during said pressing step.
68. (new) The method according to claim 62, wherein said first soluble portion of said core is made of a material chosen in a group comprising brass, copper and tombac alloy and said solvent comprises nitric acid.
69. (new) The method according to claim 62, wherein said first soluble portion of said core comprises aluminium and said solvent comprises caustic soda.
70. (new) The method according to claim 62, wherein said first soluble portion of said core comprises mild steel and said solvent comprises chloridric acid.
71. (new) The method according to claim 62, wherein said first soluble portion of said core comprises a polymeric material and said solvent is a solution liquid.
72. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pressing step is apt to produce the clinching of said core between said opposite longitudinal edges of said covering.

Serial No.: Unknown

Filing Date: Herewith

Attorney Docket No. 118.029US01

Title: METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ELONGATED ELEMENTS FOR JEWELS

---

73. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pressing step comprises, in turn, a molding or rolling step.
  
74. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pressing step is apt to confer to said covering a substantially almond-like shaped cross section.
  
75. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pressing step is apt to confer a substantial deformation to said core at said opposite longitudinal edges of said covering.
  
76. (new) The method according to claim 1, comprising an additional step of setting a stone in said covering subsequently to said pressing step.
  
77. (new) The method according to claim 1, comprising a step of inserting, after said pressing step, an ornamental member onto the elongated element.
  
78. (new) The method according to claim 1, which provides making a double-face final elongated element.
  
79. (new) The method according to claim 1, which provides making a final elongated element of “omega” type.